Percentage of Sucrose in Sugar

3163. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sucrose percentage in sugar has been determined by the Bureau of Indian Standard;

(b) whether the determined standards is compatable with the International Standard;

(c) whether Government have instituted any checks on determining the sucrose in the sugar produced in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Bureau of Indian Standards have prepared standard specification No. IS: 5982: 1970 for direct consumption plantation white sugar. The minimum POL percent for this type of sugar has been specified at 99.5 per cent. Scientifically, POL or polarisation is the net result of all Dextro and Laevo-Rotatory substances, i.e., sucrose, fructose, reffinose, glucose, etc.

(b) The Codex Stan-4-1981 (World Wide Standard) issued by Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)/World Health Organisation (WHO) prescribes standards for white sugar A and B. The Indian Standards for direct consumption plantation white sugar is compatable with the Codex Specification for white sugar of Grade B.

(c) Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 framed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 prescribes minimum sucrose content of 98 per cent for plantation white sugar produced/commonly used in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Enhancement of Quota of Foodgrains to Gujarat

3164. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for the enhancement of quota of foodgrains to the State of Gujarat due to increase in population of the State according to the 1991-census;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) No proposal is under consideration of Government to increase monthly quota of foodgrains of Gujarat for Public Distribution System on the basis of increase in population according to 1991 census. Allocations of Foodgrains to State|UTs for PDS/RPDS are made on a month to month basis after taking into account stocks in the Central Pool, demands received from State/UTs, their relative needs, offtake trend and seasonal availability etc.

However, on a request made by Government of Gujarat, the monthly wheat quota of the State for PDS has been enhanced from 53,500 MT to 75000 MT for a period of four months from May, 1995.

Accumulation of Wheat and Rice in FCI Godowns

3165. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantities of wheat and rice accumulating in the FCI godowns under the public distribution system;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;